

Voorhees Township Public Schools DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT 2023 - 2024 SCHOOL YEAR



Prepared by Susan Donnelly
Submitted to the Voorhees Township Board of Education
August 2024

VOORHEES TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE
Dr. Neely Hackett
2024 - 2025

Greetings Voorhees Township Public Schools Community,

I am delighted and privileged to have concluded my second year as the Superintendent of Schools for the 2023-2024 academic year. Voorhees is an outstanding school district, featuring an amazing staff, a supportive board of education, and a highly engaged community.

The 2023-2024 school year was extraordinary, highlighted by numerous achievements. Every decision made throughout the year was based on the thorough analysis of various data points, collaborative meetings with students, staff, parents/guardians, and community stakeholders, as well as the open and timely exchange of information.

The theme for the 2023-2024 school year was Building Pathways to Success: Empowering Students through Positive Connections. This theme centers around the crucial connection between positive relationships and successful outcomes.

Listed below are a few highlights from the 2023-2024 school year:

- Conducted monthly parent virtual workshops covering topics such as intervention programs, safety protocols, inclusion, and social media.
- Implemented an advanced math program for grades 4 and 5.
- Implemented a K-5 Spanish comprehensive program, complete with a pacing guide, curriculum, and certified Spanish teachers to instruct students in grades 3-5.
- Organized the second annual 5th-grade Future Vikings Day, where all 5th-grade students visited the middle school for two hours of bonding activities.
- Organized the second annual Inclusive Buddy Day, where special education students and their general education buddies collaborated on various team-building activities.
- Implemented after-school clubs in our elementary schools, including Science, Writing with Taylor Swift, Drawing, Drama, Reading, Computer Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM), Study Skills, Health, Chess, Newspaper, and Public Speaking.
- Conducted a thorough analysis of our Elementary Enrichment Program (EP), Elementary Co-Teaching Program (Inclusion), Response to Intervention (RTI) protocols, and Basic Skills Instruction program to ensure common standards across the district, focusing on meeting the specific needs of all students.
- Established a student council in elementary schools and held a Superintendent Listen and Learn meeting with student council presidents and vice presidents. The purpose of the meeting was for the president and vice president to share suggestions and requests on behalf of the students in their respective schools.
- Continued collaboration with Eastern High School to ensure consistency with our middle school Algebra I program.
- Awarded the Wellness Interagency Network (WIN) Mental Health Grant, providing the district with an on-site therapist one day per week at Osage Elementary School

and one day per week at Voorhees Middle School. We also gained access to school clearances that prevent students from requiring clearance through an emergency room visit. Additionally, professional development was provided to staff members on identifying and addressing mental health concerns.

- Received the High Impact Tutoring Grant in the amount of \$88,914, which allowed the district to provide a summer program for our 3rd and 4th-grade students that included English language arts, math, art, and physical education.
- Completed the first full year of our preschool inclusion program with 4 classrooms at Kresson Elementary, 3 classrooms at Fervent Beginnings, 2 classrooms at One Step at a Time, and 4 classrooms at Today's Learning Center.
- Purchased a building that will be transformed into a state-of-the-art preschool facility, the Voorhees Early Childhood Development Center, located in Gibbsboro. The building will accommodate 24 classrooms for 3 and 4-year-old students, with the Gibbsboro Board of Education utilizing five of these classrooms. Additionally, we secured a Universal Preschool Facilities Expansion Grant in the amount of \$6,000,000, enabling us to renovate both the first and second floors of the building. We anticipate the opening on January 2, 2025, bringing significant excitement.
- Held a Preschool Career Fair on April 30, 2024, to recruit candidates for various positions in our new building. These staff members will be hired effective September 1, 2024, allowing them four months to partner with our existing staff and receive hands-on professional development before the building opens on January 2, 2025.
- Prepared for the implementation of the What I Need (W.I.N.) Period for the 2024-2025 school year. This period will be introduced in our second-grade classrooms, where students will rotate among second-grade teachers for 30 minutes, three times a week, to receive personalized instruction tailored to the unique needs of each child through reinforcement, intervention, and enrichment. The 30-minute instructional period will be intentional and meaningful for each student.
- Prepared for the introduction of a Financial Literacy I marking period course for the middle school in the 2024-2025 school year, covering key concepts such as Financial Health, Financial Landscape, and Money Management.
- Completed various infrastructure upgrades across the district, including:
 - Restroom renovations
 - Replacement of doors and windows
 - Installation of a keyless door entry system throughout the district
 - Media center renovation at Kresson
 - Playground replacement at Signal Hill
 - Parking lot upgrades
 - Kitchen equipment improvements
 - Installation of safety film on glass door entrances
 - Replacement of HVAC units
 - Ongoing replacement of carpets with tile in classrooms
- Engaged in a partnership with the Voorhees Township Police Department to bring Static Communication Boards to our township public playgrounds, raising awareness about students with special needs and the various ways they communicate. As a result of the collaboration between the VTSD and the VTPD, communication boards are now present at each township playground.

- Conducted four Superintendent Forums during which parents and community members engaged in conversations focused on best practices for instruction, school climate, and safety.
- Held two Food Advisory Committee meetings to discuss important matters related to the nutritional well-being of students.

As we embark on the 2024-2025 academic year, I reaffirm my dedication to working with each of you collaboratively, tirelessly, and with an unwavering focus on meeting the academic needs of all students.

I eagerly look forward to continuing our collaborative partnership and pursuing our shared mission of delivering a quality education to the students of Voorhees Township.

Sincerely,

Dr. Neely Hackett
Superintendent

BUSINESS OFFICE

2023-2024 Annual Report

Helen G. Haley, CPA

**Business Administrator/
Board Secretary**

2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT BUSINESS OFFICE
HELEN G. HALEY, CPA
**BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/
BOARD SECRETARY**

Historical Perspective:

In July 2018, with the FY 2019 Appropriations Act, our state aid was reduced by \$337,168 and in March 2019 with the passing of Chapter Law 67, our state aid was reduced by \$189,295 for fiscal year 2019-2020, \$293,494 for fiscal year 2020-2021 and \$318,731 for fiscal year 2021-2022. As a result of this law, we anticipated further reductions in state aid over a seven year period. Fiscal year 2021-2022 was the peak year for this decrease based on the formula, so it was expected to taper off through fiscal year 2024-2025. Due to implementing full-day kindergarten (formerly calculated at 50%) and an increase in special education enrollment, the formula caused our state aid to increase for fiscal year 2022-2023 by \$1,357,778. This amount leveled off for fiscal year 2023-2024 since enrollment was consistent, so the increase in state aid was approximately \$70,000. For fiscal year 2024-2025, many districts received a significant reduction in state aid and subsequently received a Stabilized School Budget Aid Grant for 45% of the reduction. The net decrease in state aid experienced by our District for fiscal year 2024-2025 was \$579,126 (a reduction of \$1,052,957 offset by Stabilized School aid of \$473,831) Fiscal year 2024-2025 is the seventh and last year of Chapter Law 67.

We have been able to maintain programs while staying within the 2% cap on the local tax levy by utilizing our reserve funds. In September 2022, the District received Preschool Education Expansion Aid of \$1,064,696 as a result of submitting an application for the full-day preschool expansion program. This program will be implemented over a five year period with aid increasing based on preschool enrollment projections. By year five, we are expected to have preschool classrooms available for approximately 500 students. Fiscal year 2023-2024 represented year two of implementation of full-day preschool. Preschool Expansion Aid of \$4,845,395 was received for the current fiscal year.

Fiscal Year 2023-24:

In July 2022, the District was notified that we were eligible to apply for Preschool Expansion Aid (PEA). The application was submitted in August 2022 and approved by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) in September 2022 for implementation of full-day kindergarten on October 3, 2022. Based on the calculation of our preschool universe, we will need to provide classroom space for approximately 500 students within a five year period. For the first year, we had approximately 70 preschool students which were placed in our classrooms at Kresson Elementary School and one provider location.

In year two of full-day preschool, we had approximately 163 students consisting of 42 students at Kresson Elementary School and 121 students at three private preschool provider locations. In anticipation of providing classrooms to 500 students, during fiscal year 2022-2023, we worked closely with our architect of record, FVHD to analyze the options, and on May 30, 2023, the Board approved an Agreement of Sale/Purchase for a potential preschool building in neighboring Gibbsboro. In addition on May 31, 2023, we submitted the Universal Preschool

Facilities Expansion Grant to assist with funding 40% of the renovation cost. Both the acquisition and grant were approved by the NJDOE in early 2024. Local approvals were also obtained from the Borough of Gibbsboro and the building was purchased on April 25, 2024. A bid for renovating the building was opened exactly one year from the agreement of sale/purchase on May 30, 2024 with a contract being awarded on June 10, 2024. The building will have 24 preschool classrooms. There is a memorandum of understanding with the Gibbsboro Board of Education where they will utilize 5 of the 24 classrooms. The substantial completion date for the preschool building is December 27, 2024. This project represents a shared service, a repurposing of an existing building and the implementation of full-day preschool for two school districts.

Other construction projects that occurred during the year were:

- Replacement of Interior and Exterior Doors
- Installation of a Keyless Door Entry System
- Kresson Media Center Renovations
- New Playground Equipment at Signal Hill
- Parking Lot Paving
- Installation of Hard-Surface Flooring
- HVAC Unit Installations
- Security Camera Installation
- Window Replacement
- Bathroom Renovations

In September 2023, Thomas Higgs was hired as the new Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds. He works very closely with Clark Mathes, Director of Buildings & Grounds on the various projects as well as supervises the custodial staff. Mr. Mathes and Mr. Higgs do an excellent job managing these projects as well as the numerous annual maintenance responsibilities. In addition, Clark holds a certificate in Project Management, so his expertise in this area has greatly contributed to the timely completion of projects relating to preschool expansion and maintenance projects that must be completed during summer, winter and spring breaks when the buildings are unoccupied.

The District continues to receive monetary awards in recognition of our safety programs and claims experience with the Joint Insurance Fund (JIF). We continue to achieve Elite II status for safety following receiving Safety District of the Year in 2022. Mr. Mathes schedules various safety training sessions for the maintenance and custodial staff, our staff attends monthly JIF meetings and/or workshops hosted by the JIF, and reporting of potential claims is done in a timely manner.

Tricia Malady, Executive Assistant to the Business Administrator, also contributed to the safety award Elite II status due to the timeliness of our claims reporting since she is involved in the reporting of workers' compensation claims. Tricia also applies for and manages our Wellness Grant that we receive from the Schools Health Insurance Fund (SHIF). This year, she implemented several wellness programs to benefit employees such as the AWA Paws and Feet 5K Run/Walk and Doggie Fun Day, yoga and meditation classes, a smoothie truck visit to each school and other wellness related events and incentives. Mrs. Malady also attends

monthly SHIF meetings and coordinates the renewal of the various health insurance employee benefits.

In January and March 2024, we held Food Advisory Committee virtual meetings. These meetings were co-hosted by Mrs. Haley and our Food Service Director, Tina Artusa. Parents were encouraged to submit questions ahead of time relating to meals and other food service related topics. These questions were addressed at the virtual meeting and time was allotted for additional questions as well as discussion and suggestions. Some new menu items were implemented as a result.

As the preschool program expanded into three provider locations, additional transportation routes were added. We also renewed the jointure with Eastern Camden County School District for a transportation contract that combined routes that are tiered in order to provide a cost savings to both districts. In November 2023, we received the delivery of two new school buses funded by ESSER grants. The goal was to utilize these buses to supplement transportation to after school events once there were staff members trained to get their commercial driver's license (CDL). Andrea Graham joined the District in January 2024 as the new Transportation Coordinator. She was able to further the CDL process along with training provided by a local transportation company and was our first employee to obtain her CDL. In February 2024, we recognized our bus drivers for their service by providing bus-shaped cookies to bus drivers, bus aides, bus supervisors and front office secretaries.

In the Business Office, Christine Todd and Regina Disco enter purchase orders for the District and Maintenance as well as maintain vendor files, certificates of insurance, etc. Mrs. Disco also works closely with Food Service and handles all of the required annual and quarterly forms for the school nutrition electronic application and reimbursement system (SNEARS). Mr. Higgs reviews the procurement aspect of each purchase order and Tatiana (Tanya) Weinstock processes Accounts Payable. Mrs. Weinstock holds the titles of Accounts Payable/Registrar as well as backup for Transportation.

Melissa Dammer, Payroll Specialist, processes the semi-monthly payroll, quarterly pension reporting and tax submissions as well as processes W-2s and answers payroll questions from employees as they arise.

Danielle Kirey, Assistant Business Administrator, continued to manage the spending, reporting and reimbursement of the COVID related grants which were finalized in fiscal year 2023-2024. Ms. Kirey is also the Fiscal Specialist for the Preschool Expansion Aid (PEA) program which began in FY 2022-2023 when the District was approved to implement full-day preschool. Ms. Kirey works on the overall PEA budget and facilitates the provider budgets. In May 2023, Danielle worked with the architect to submit a grant application for the Universal Preschool Facilities Expansions Grant which was awarded for \$6,000,000 in FY 2023-2024. This grant will substantially assist with funds for adding preschool classrooms to provide for the projected five hundred students in our preschool universe. Another highlight is receiving positive remarks from the annual audit.

Fiscal year 2023-2024 was a year with a continued focus on preschool expansion, including increasing classrooms by partnering with two additional preschool providers and purchasing a

building to add twenty-four preschool classrooms of which five classrooms will be utilized by the Gibbsboro Board of Education. Much was accomplished and we look forward to the next fiscal year.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Andrew Moskowitz

Assistant Superintendent

2023-2024 District Results

Curriculum and Instruction
Andrew Moskowitz
Assistant Superintendent
2023-2024 District Results

During the 2023-2024 school year, instructional staff and administrators worked collaboratively to accomplish the following goals:

- Provide students with high-quality educational experiences that are differentiated and authentic.
- Create an accelerated math program at the elementary level that was implemented in grades 4 and 5.
- Implemented a new literacy program entitled “Wonders” in grades K-2. Grades 3-5 will be implemented in September 2024.
- Created Math and ELA Benchmark Assessments in grades 3-8.
- Investigated social-emotional learning (SEL) programs with the implementation of the Character Strong SEL Program grades K-8 in September 2024.

To ensure student success in all areas, teachers used assessment data to inform their instruction and provide differentiated experiences for their students. As has been our mission for many years, Voorhees Township School District staff continued to have high expectations for student academic achievement. During the summer, administrators analyzed the results from the iReady assessments and the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment in literacy and math to evaluate student achievement (See iReady Data and NJSLA Data Below).

Literacy Scores Comparison (Percent on or above grade level/1 year below/2 or more grade levels below)

Hamilton				
<i>Grade</i>	<i>2020-2021-iReady</i>	<i>2021-2022-iReady</i>	<i>2022-2023 iReady</i>	<i>2023-2024 iReady</i>
First	68/30/2	78/22/0	89/11/0	87/16/0
Second	91/9/0	87/11/2	83/14/2	93/6/1
Third	90/7/3	91/6/2	85/11/4	88/8/3
Fourth	84/16/0	74/22/4	83/15/1	82/8/2
Fifth	67/25/7	74/15/11	70/21/9	80/9/11

Kresson				
<i>Grade</i>	<i>2020-2021-iReady</i>	<i>2021-2022 iReady</i>	<i>2022-2023 iReady</i>	<i>2023-2024 iReady</i>
First	96/4/0	81/20/0	86/14/0	91/10/0
Second	81/19/0	83/14/3	89/8/3	83/9/8
Third	85/8/7	92/4/4	87/10/3	90/8/0
Fourth	56/33/11	82/15/3	74/23/3	68/25/3
Fifth	67/15/18	66/21/12	70/22/9	77/20/3

Signal Hill				
<i>Grade</i>	<i>2020-2021-iReady</i>	<i>2021-2022- iReady</i>	<i>2022-2023 iReady</i>	<i>2023-2024 iReady</i>
First	75/22/3	84/16/0	84/16/0	92/8/0
Second	90/10/0	87/11/1	96/4/0	85/13/1
Third	86/7/8	96/4/0	91/9/0	90/7/4
Fourth	75/22/3	75/18/7	82/14/4	69/29/0
Fifth	69/19/13	75/21/4	81/10/10	81/18/1

Osage				
<i>Grade</i>	<i>2020-2021-iReady</i>	<i>2021-2022- iReady</i>	<i>2022-2023 iReady</i>	<i>2023-2024 iReady</i>
First	76/24/0	76/22/2	86/10/3	80/19/1
Second	78/19/3	74/19/8	84/13/2	75/18/6
Third	83/13/5	79/9/12	77/9/13	89/7/1
Fourth	64/28/7	73/24/4	75/15/9	64/26/4
Fifth	75/19/6	69/18/13	70/27/3	70/18/6

Math Scores Comparison (Number indicates % on or above grade level)

Hamilton				
<i>Grade</i>	<i>2020-2021-iReady</i>	<i>2021-2022- iReady</i>	<i>2022-2023 iReady</i>	<i>2023-2024 iReady</i>
First	82/18/0	72/27/1	84/16/0	79/21/0
Second	74/26/0	76/25/0	77/20/3	85/15/0
Third	66/30/5	83/13/4	75/25/0	81/16/2
Fourth	88/11/2	86/11/4	90/8/3	87/12/1
Fifth	78/15/8	75/15/5	79/20/1	85/12/3

Kresson				
<i>Grade</i>	<i>2020-2021-iReady</i>	<i>2021-2022- iReady</i>	<i>2022-2023 iReady</i>	<i>2023-2024 iReady</i>
First	73/27/0	79/20/2	78/21/1	83/17/0
Second	72/25/3	73/26/2	90/5/5	69/10/0
Third	67/29/4	87/9/4	77/21/1	89/10/0
Fourth	61/27/13	79/15/6	88/8/5	77/22/0
Fifth	68/24/8	70/19/11	73/17/11	94/5/2

Signal Hill				
<i>Grade</i>	<i>2020-2021-iReady</i>	<i>2021-2022-iReady</i>	<i>2022-2023 iReady</i>	<i>2023-2024 iReady</i>
First	67/32/0	82/16/1	77/22/1	84/16/0
Second	87/13/0	81/17/1	92/8/0	77/17/6
Third	75/21/1	79/20/1	78/22/0	87/12/1
Fourth	64/34/1	77/21/1	82/14/5	85/15/0
Fifth	65/27/7	76/21/3	83/10/7	77/20/1

Osage				
<i>Grade</i>	<i>2020-2021-iReady</i>	<i>2021-2022-iReady</i>	<i>2022-2023 iReady</i>	<i>2023-2024 iReady</i>
First	63/36/1	67/33/2	66/29/5	74/23/4
Second	65/31/4	49/42/9	72/21/7	51/39/10
Third	67/25/8	69/26/4	71/21/8	75/22/2
Fourth	68/24/8	77/17/7	73/16/10	70/18/8
Fifth	73/21/7	67/23/9	80/14/6	73/18/3

Blue- improved score

Language Arts NJSLA Results															
	Level 1			Level 2			Level 3			Level 4			Level 5		
Grade	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
3	8%	9%	5%	11%	13%	9%	19%	21%	24%	52%	50%	56%	10%	7%	6%
4	7%	5%	4%	8%	4%	9%	21%	16%	20%	48%	48%	43%	16%	27%	24%
5	5%	4%	3%	8%	5%	6%	17%	15%	12%	57%	55%	57%	13%	21%	22%
6	7%	7%	4%	12%	8%	6%	32%	19%	16%	43%	50%	48%	5%	16%	26%
7	4%	5%	3%	9%	4%	8%	19%	20%	17%	43%	38%	42%	26%	33%	30%
8	8%	3%	5%	8%	4%	8%	14%	10%	18%	40%	44%	44%	29%	39%	25%

Math NJSLA Results															
	Level 1			Level 2			Level 3			Level 4			Level 5		
Grade	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
3	6%	5%	4%	9%	8%	5%	18%	24%	22%	45%	45%	39%	22%	19%	30%
4	4%	3%	5%	12%	9%	9%	22%	21%	28%	50%	55%	44%	13%	12%	14%
5	7%	3%	3%	15%	13%	10%	23%	22%	20%	41%	44%	50%	15%	17%	17%
6	9%	7%	6%	22%	17%	15%	25%	30%	27%	37%	38%	41%	7%	9%	11%
7	4%	6%	5%	15%	12%	14%	31%	26%	30%	40%	43%	35%	11%	13%	16%
8	18%	21%	15%	28%	24%	22%	32%	27%	27%	21%	25%	28%	4%	2%	8%

Blue- improved score

During the 2023-2024 school year, professional development for teachers focused on using data to inform instruction. Middle school math and language arts teachers reviewed the data from the iReady Diagnostic Program to address students’ strengths and weaknesses. Social Studies teachers in grades 6-8 were given training on language arts skills to assist the students’ understanding of informational text. Additionally, teachers in grades K-2 received literacy training with the implementation of the “Wonders” Language Arts Program. Special Education teachers worked with Toby Karten to enhance inclusion teaching strategies in the classroom. The professional development coaches assisted elementary teachers with On Demand Writing and Using a Rubric to Score Writing to plan future instruction.

As a district, we continue to work collaboratively to ensure that the Voorhees School District’s vision for instruction is realized. Our ability to implement our vision for instruction has been challenging due to the lasting impact of the global pandemic. However, teachers continued to work diligently to provide quality instruction to their students that was targeted and differentiated. In addition to quality instruction, staff and administrators focused on creating a favorable school climate in which students felt safe taking educational risks while developing a love of learning. In Voorhees Township School District, we continue to live our brand each day despite the challenges we face, and we will continue to strive to encourage innovation, to engage all learners, and to inspire lifelong learning!

Innovate, Inspire, Engage

SPECIAL SERVICES

2023 -2024

**Dr. Melody Alegria
Director of Special Services**

**Ms. Donna Ross
Supervisor of Special Services**

SPECIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Dr. Melody Alegria, Director of Special Services
Ms. Donna Ross, Supervisor of Special Services

Director of Special Services

The Special Services department includes all services related to the identification and evaluation of potentially disabled students as well as the provision of special education and related services and/or speech language services to students deemed eligible. This department also coordinates home instruction for students unable to attend school on a temporary basis.

Staff members include Child Study Team personnel, teachers, related service providers, instructional associates and home providers. Each team member directly interacts with children and provides consultative services to the school staff and parents.

Child Study Team Services

The function of the Child Study Team is to provide diagnostic, evaluative, consultative, and related services to the school community. CST staff includes 2 full teams serving the preschool and elementary levels. For the middle school team, we have two school psychologists and a learning consultant. Each child study team member evaluates at least one student per week on average, serves as case manager for approximately 60 students and participates on a committee entitled Response to Intervention. CST personnel provide on-going consultation and support to all staff to facilitate the implementation of IEPs. Related services personnel include: eight full-time speech therapists, three full-time occupational therapists, one full-time physical therapist, one 80% time board certified behavior analyst for preschool, Kresson Elementary, and ETH Elementary Schools, and one full-time board certified behavior analyst for VMS, Signal Hill Elementary, and Osage Elementary. The district contracted with an agency to provide Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs) and also worked to get in-house Instructional Associates certified as RBTs.

Instructional Staff

Teacher/FTIA/PTIA/RBT	Kresson	Hamilton	Osage	SH	VMS	Total
2012-13	6/8	5/10	10/13	10/12	17/12	48/55
2013-14	6/7	5/9.5	9/12	10/12.5	18/10	48/51
2014-15	5/5.5	6/7.5	10/11.5	8/11	19/12.5	48/48
2015-16	6/10	5/8	10/13	8/12	17/13	46/39/17
2016-17	7/5+5	5/5+4	10/10+5	9/10+3	17/7+7	48/37+24
2017-18	7/5+6	7/5+13	10/10+2	10/11+5	17/6+5	50/37+31
2018-19	7/6+5	7/6+13	10/9+2	10/9+5	17/4+5	51/34+30
2019-20	7/6+5/4	7/4+8/3	9/10+1	10/9+6/2	17/7+3/3	50/36+23/12
2020-21	7/6+4/5	8/4+7/4	10/9+1	10/8+4/5	19/2+3/3	54/29+19/18
2021-22	7/8+4/6	10/4+9/9	10/11+3/2	13/6+3/6	15/2+2/6	55/31+21/29
2022-23	13/6+11/12	7/3+2/0	10/8+3/1	10/7+0/8	18/3+2/2	58/27+18/23
2023-2024	13/10+7/13	6//3+5/0	10/8+4/0	9/7+3/4	19/5+2/3	57/33+21/20

There were 128 referrals this year. Of that number 72 were school age and 56 were preschoolers.

Preschool Referrals

Year	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Total	63	37	41	56	41	46	62	47	38	45	43	56

School Age Referrals

E.T. Hamilton	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Males	2	6	8	6	5	8	8	3	6	5	15	10
Females	4	7	8	7	4	4	5	3	5	4	4	10
Enrollment	454	418	419	412	383	385	398	389	379	525	509	509
	1.3%	3.1%	3.8%	3.1%	2.3%	3.1%	3.2%	1.5%	2.9%	1.7%	3.7%	3.9%

Kresson	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Males	3	7	11	10	6	12	6	3	2	13	6	10
Females	8	6	9	6	3	10	3	4	6	3	3	6
Enrollment	344	314	374	379	398	398	384	385	369	425	514	523
	3.2%	4.1%	5.3%	4.2%	2.2%	5.5%	2.3%	1.8%	2.2%	3.8%	1.8%	3.1%
Osage	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Males	17	12	21	22	11	11	2	9	9	5	13	16
Females	6	10	20	7	9	10	17	13	5	11	11	4
Enrollment	651	655	643	638	606	671	681	696	705	563	549	534
	3.5%	3.3%	6.3%	4.5%	3.3%	3.1%	2.7%	3.1%	2.0%	2.8%	4.4%	3.7%
Signal Hill	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Males	9	11	23	13	7	12	15	4	6	6	9	4
Females	7	12	5	11	8	12	13	3	8	8	4	3
Enrollment	512	499	473	489	484	504	442	486	460	444	452	441
	3.1%	4.6%	5.9%	4.8%	3.0%	4.7%	6.3%	1.4%	3.0%	3.2%	2.9%	1.6%
Total Elementary	1961	1916	1909	1861	1871	1958	1978	1956	1913	1957	2024	63/2024
	2.9%	3.7%	5.5%	4.1%	2.8%	4%	4%	2.1%	2.5%	2.8%	3.2%	3.1%
VMS	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Males	4	5	18	11	8	8	7	6	4	5	3	4
Females	6	3	6	2	5	4	4	8	2	2	5	5
Enrollment	1136	1107	1110	1063	1072	1045	1042	1018	1027	965	957	969
	.9%	.72%	2.1%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.05%	1.4%	.6%	.7%	0.8%	0.9%
Total District Referrals	66/3097	79/3023	129/3019	91/2981	66/2943	96/3003	142/3020	56/2975	53/2967	62/2997	73/2981	72/2976
	2.13%	2.6%	4.2%	3%	2.2%	3.1%	4.7%	1.8%	1.8%	2.1%	2.4%	2.4%

Based on total enrollment as of June 30th

Special Education Enrollment

The New Jersey Administrative Code requires districts to provide services to students with disabilities in either of two categories: Eligible for Special Education and Related Services or Eligible for Speech /Language Services. The following chart outlines enrollment in each of the schools:

Eligible for Special Education/Eligible for Speech Only by School/School Enrollment as of June 2024

	PS	SH	Hamilton	Kresson	Osage	VMS	OD	Total	% of enrollment	
2015	28	47/28/457	43/36/418	36/7/367	49/16/641	139/12/1107	17	359/99/2991	12%/3.3%	15.3%
2016	24	40/32/474	40/34/410	43/14/373	54/16/629	134/11/1055	16	351/107/2943	11.9%/3.6%	15.5%
2017	35	49 /30/484	37/33/383	54/37/398	66/27/606	96/10/1072	17	354/137/2943	12.0%/4.6%	16.6%
2018	48	50 /33/504	46/28/385	63/26/398	57/27/671	88/9/1045	14	366/123/3003	12.1%/4.0%	16.2%
2019	48	62/22/470	53/25/398	56/29 /384	62/19/ 681	90/8/1042	27	393/103//3020	13%/3.4%	16.4%
2020	47	53/32/485	45/31/389	52/32/385	65/19/695	139/12/1018	32	386/126/2975	12.9%/4.2%	17.2%
2021	41	52/28/460	49/23/379	57/27/369	72/15/705	135/8/1027	27	433/101/2967	14.6%/3.4%	18.0%
2022	49	53/38/444	70/30/525	59/35/425	61/15/563	124/7/965	28	444/125/2997	14.8%/4.2%	19.0%
2023	49	65/37/452	44/42/509	60/46/514	72/17/549	133/6/957	27	450/148/2981	15.1%/5.0%	20.1%
2024	49/0/14 6	59/29/441	48/49/509	59/46/523	73/27/534	138/4/969	24	450/155/3122	14.4%/4.9%	19.3%

Current Status as of June 2024

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Eligible for SERS	363	354	366	393	386	433	444	450	450
Newly Eligible	71	56	67	72	60	65	77	67	62
Transfers In	14	39	44	39	29	32	36	19	24
Graduated	48	49	47	45	44	48	46	40	38
Moved out	27	23	26	28	28	30	47	28	33
Declassified	7	9	8	15	13	13	10	15	11
Eligible for Speech	128	137	123	108	158	101	125	148	155
District enrollment	2981	2943	3003	3020	2975	2967	2997	2981	3122

Declassifications

	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Preschool	3	5	0	0	0	0	4	3	3	0	6	1
Elem/VMS	14	8	5	7	9	8	11	10	10	10	9	10
Totals	17	13	5	7	9	8	15	13	13	10	15	11

Special Education Programs Report for 2022-2023 School Year

The state department of education issued its annual performance report on how well each district met the State Performance Plan Indicators. The report is published each year for the preceding year and addresses *graduation rates, drop-out rates, performance on state assessments, suspensions/expulsions, education environments, preschool Environments, preschool outcomes, parental involvement, disproportionality, child find, early childhood transition, secondary transition and post- secondary outcomes*. Some areas are not applicable to our district. Of the targets applicable, we met all expectations except for Indicators 3b (8th grade math), 3c, 3d, 11 and 12.

Indicator 3 portrays assessment participation and proficiency. This indicator is separated into 4 subgroups (a) participation rate for students with IEPs, (b) proficiency rates for children with IEPs against grade-level academic achievement standards, (c) DLM

proficiency rates, and (d) gap in proficiency rates for children with IEPs and for all students against grade-level standards. Standards were met for indicator 3a (participation) and 3b (4th & 8th grade ELA proficiency and 4th grade math proficiency). Eighth grade math proficiency should have been at 14%; however, our district fell short at 11.43%. It is important to note that a one percent increase in this indicator is noted when compared to the 2021-2022 school year. Indicator 3c reports proficiency rates for students who are administered the DLM, an alternative assessment to the NJSLA. Increased resources, such as Accessible Literacy Learning, along with increased staff training in the STAR curriculum has been provided to our staff to remediate this concern. Individual DLM reports from the 2023-2024 school year indicate increased rates of proficiency. Indicator 3d reports the gap in proficiency rates for children with IEPs and all students against grade level academic achievement standards. Increased teacher support and training, continued coaching and education for our inclusion teachers, and consistent use of research based programs such as SPIRE and WonderWorks, is being provided to remediate this concern. These supports were introduced during the 2023-2024 school year and will continue to be provided for our staff during the upcoming school year. .

Indicator 6b reports on the percentage of preschool children who are enrolled in a separate special education class, separate school, or residential facility. The state target is set at 38.25%, while our district percentage was at 47.22% for the 2022-2023 school year. Continued expansion of our preschool program, along with increased opportunities for inclusive experiences and a partnership with NJPIEP (NJ Preschool Inclusive Education Project) were implemented during the 2023-2024 school year to support this target. Effective oversight and supervision (Indicators 11 and 12) should have been at 100% however, our data shows that 95.35% of the time did we meet target dates for the completion of the referral process and 92.30% of the time children turning 3 exiting Early Intervention were identified and in a preschool program by the age of three. It is important to note that standard 12 shows an increase of almost 30 percentage points since the 2020-2021 school year.

K-8	In general education 80% or more Voorhees/State target	In general education between 79%-41% no state target	In general education 40% or less Voorhees/State target	Out of district placement Voorhees/State target
2012-13	59%/48%	28.8%	8.4%/16.5%	3.8%/6.7%
2013-14	57.2%/48%	30.5%	7.3%/16.5%	5%/7.6%
2014-15	52.9%/48.5%	35.2%	7.9%/16%	4%/7.4%
2015-16	51.7%/49%	48.3%	7.1%/15.5%	4.2%/7.4%
2016-17	56.2%/49.5%	34.6%	6.5%/15%	2.7%/7.2%
2017-18	53.4%/50%	36%	7.9%/15%	2.7%/7.1%
2018-19	56.2%/49.5%	34.6%	6.5%/15%	2.7%/7.2%
2019-20	50.6%/50.5%	36.4%	8.3%/14%	4.7%/6.9%
2020-21	50.5%/45%	35.97%	9.23%/14.75%	4.32%/6.75%
2021-22	50%/45%	33.87%	11.69%/14.75%	4.44%/6.75%
2022-23	51.3%/45%	36.8%	11.90%/14.50%	3.72%/6.50%

Ages 3-5	Percent of Preschoolers in inclusive settings 80% of time/state target	Percent of Preschoolers in separate settings/state target	Other (general education + resource)
2012-13	39.5%/42.5%	55.3%/36%	5.2%
2013-14	41.5%/42.5%	56.1%/36%	2.4%
2014-15	39%/43%	53.7%/35.5%	7.3%
2015-16	26.2%/43.5%	59.5%/35%	14.3%
2016-17	55.9%/44%	42.4%/34.5%	1.7%
2017-18	41.1%/44%	46.4%/34.5%	12.5%
2018-19	50%/45%	35.5%/34%	14.5%
2019-20	64.9/46%	35.1%/34%	0%
2020-21	64.1%/47%	33.33%/38.75%	N/A
2021-22	53.13%/47%	46.88%/38.75%	NA
2022-23	50%/ 47.50%	47.22%/38.25%	1.8%

Homebound Instruction

Home Instruction is a service coordinated by the Child Study Team office for students who need to be absent from school for an extended period due to illness, injury or suspension from school. Home instruction may also be provided as deemed appropriate for students with disabilities via the IEP process. This year a home instruction manual was developed and implemented to ensure alignment with QSAC and NJ Code. This manual was reviewed with administrators, school counselors, and child study team members. This year, there were approximately 5 students on intermittent home instruction. Each medical home instruction situation received prior approval by the School District Physician, per the recently developed and implemented Home Instruction Manual and State Guidelines.

Staff Development

For the 2023-2024 school year, staff development was tailored to address the unique needs of the programs and students for whom each teacher was responsible. Our in-class support teachers enjoyed quarterly in-person, on-campus inclusion coaching sessions, as well as a quarterly online professional development instructional series on inclusionary practices. Both the on-campus and online sessions were led by an inclusion facilitator. Our in-class support teachers also participated in monthly grade-level PLC meetings with their general education co-teaching pairs. We continued to expand upon our Peer Buddy Program with students in our autism program and their general education peers. This program was consistently implemented in Kresson School, in addition to Signal Hill School this year to further cultivate an inclusive, equitable environment for all students. Teachers in our resource room program participated in training for the SPIRE decoding intervention program. They continued to grow their practice and implementation of this program through a collaborative monthly PLC, during which time they engaged in collaborative discussions, data collection, and peer-to-peer coaching. Teachers in our LLD programs were given training and coaching on the Lindamood Bell Visualizing and Verbalizing program, which capitalizes on language development and working memory to improve receptive and expressive language skills, reading comprehension, and written expression. Training and in-person coaching sessions were facilitated by one of our speech/language therapists, who also served as our LLD lead teacher. Teachers, RBT's, and instructional associates in our autism and preschool disabilities program participated in a two-day STAR (Strategies for Teaching

Autism based on Research) professional development series facilitated by a STAR trainer. Our in-district BCBA's provided follow up coaching and support sessions to review key information for classroom set up, intense teaching trials, functional routines, and reinforcement systems. Finally, our department hosted three specialist training sessions for QBS Safety Care, which focuses on preventative and de-escalation strategies, with instruction also being provided for safe and responsible physical management when necessary. Our district has supported professional development for seven Safety Care trainers, who throughout the 2023-2024 school year, trained twenty-eight staff members.

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

2023-2024

Bruce Taylor
Director of Educational Technology

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY
2023-2024
Bruce Taylor
Director of Educational Technology

The revised Voorhees Township School District Technology for Digital Learning Plan was completed during the summer of 2023. This three-year plan was submitted to the superintendent in October 2023, but it was determined that approval by the Board of Education wasn't necessary as district technology plans are no longer required by the state of New Jersey.

All components developed in the plan were reviewed to ensure compliance with guidelines required for funding from the following sources:

- E-Rate funding via compliance with the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)

These criteria include the establishment of linkages with the following external plans:

- Future Ready Schools (White House Future Ready Summits)
- Framework for 21st Century Learning (The Partnership for 21st Century Skills)
- National Educational Technology Standards (International Society for Technology in Education – ISTE)
- New Jersey Student Learning Standards, including new 2020 Computer Science and Design Thinking

Linkages have also been identified across many other ancillary plans. These plans, at least in part, serve to determine and reinforce roles and levels of responsibility of individuals, schools and the district as a whole, toward meeting the technology goals in the Voorhees Township School District.

Current corporate partners, technology vendors and various experts were consulted throughout the planning process as solutions for voice, data and video applications were placed under consideration. In addition to the review and selection of technology products and services, opportunities for educational institutions, creative-financing programs, customer support options and product futures were explored. Relationships formed or renewed in this process will continue to serve the district during the incremental implementation of this plan.

The district's main goals for technology initiatives through the year 2026 have been established to meet district technology needs, as identified by the committee, and are set within the eight major areas of the action plan, aligned directly with the Future Ready Framework:

- Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
- Use of Time

- Technology, Networks, and Hardware
- Data and Privacy
- Community Partnerships
- Professional Learning
- Budget and Resources
- Empowered, Innovative Leadership

The revised technology plan document serves as a next edition in an evolving process, and it will always be subject to periodic changes as deemed appropriate. This revision incorporates data taken from the following sources, which may be found in the Strategic Planning area in the document:

- Future Ready Schools – NJ Bronze Certification Gap Analysis
- Digital Star School Certification Program Criteria Analysis
- NJTRAx Digital Learning Survey Data – Gap Analysis
- “Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Future of Teaching and Learning: Insights and Recommendations” - The Department of Education’s Office of Educational Technology (OET)

The Gap Analysis components above were also used by school task force members in the formulation of school-based action plans. These school plans were previously created for the 2020-23 plan, carried over to the 2023-26 plan, and incorporated into the larger district plan for easy reference.

New Jersey State Learning Standards (NJSLs) 8.1 Computer Science, 8.2 Design Thinking; and 9.4 Life Literacies & Key Skills was initially implemented in the 2022-23 school year and action items will carry through the term of the 2023-26 plan.

Fifty (50) new action items related to generative artificial intelligence have been introduced in the 2023-26 digital learning plan.

The 2023-2026 version of the districts technology plan for digital learning is the 11th revision to the original document written in 1991. Due to the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic made on our educational priorities and processes for combating learning loss in the past few years – it has been our intent to extend the established goals in each school’s digital learning plan for another three years through the term of this plan’s new revision. Beyond focusing on the Future Ready Framework, we are evaluating promising opportunities for Artificial Intelligence (AI) in education, as well as identified risks, and incorporating the available educational technology guidance into our plan. We are thinking about AI in positive ways, including how our teachers can leverage the different tools to help make their everyday tasks easier, which in turn allows them to focus more on the students’ classroom experience. The revised Technology Plan for Digital Learning 2023-26 is available on the district’s web

PRESCHOOL

2023-2024

ANNUAL REPORT

Julie Lyons

Director of Early Childhood / K-5 Literacy / ESL

PRESCHOOL
Julie Lyons
Director of Early Childhood / K-5 Literacy / ESL

The 2023-2024 school year marked Year 2 of the district’s participation in Preschool Expansion Assistance (PEA). The district was able to serve 186 3- and 4-year-old students across Kresson Elementary and three private provider sites during the 2023-2024 school year. As part of its NJDOE-approved high-quality preschool program, the district offers a full-day program with a certified teacher and instructional associate. Each classroom is limited to no more than 15 students, ensuring small class sizes that include students with special needs.

The district utilizes the state-approved, research-based *Creative Curriculum* along with its assessment platform, Teaching Strategies GOLD. This curriculum provides materials and resources to support intentional teaching and learning experiences that are both rigorous and relevant to young learners. In addition to the *Creative Curriculum*, Voorhees employs the Pyramid Model, a proven framework that promotes healthy social-emotional development in young children. Preschool staff and families receive support from the Preschool Instructional Coach (PIC), Preschool Intervention and Referral Specialist (PIRS), and Social Worker/Community Parent Involvement Specialist (CPIS). Furthermore, community, family, and staff stakeholders participate in the Voorhees Early Childhood Advisory Committee (VECAC), which fosters collaboration and feedback to ensure continuous program improvement.

Students enjoy real-life experiences through classroom visitors, celebrations of learning, and field trips. This year Cedar Run Wildlife Reserve visited our preschoolers at Kresson and the private provider sites, to give students meaningful experiences with wildlife and as a complement to the curriculum’s units of study. In May and June, students also enjoyed a fun-filled and educational field trip to Johnson’s Farm.

To establish smooth transitions in early childhood, a P-3 Committee was established with representatives from administration, kindergarten teachers, preschool teachers, and private provider staff. This year, the committee collaborated with the VECAC’s Transition subcommittee to organize visits where each preschool classroom’s students could visit a “partner” Kindergarten classroom. Rising Kindergarten students had the chance to meet a Kindergarten teacher, spend time in a Kindergarten setting, and participate in a “scavenger hunt” with a kindergarten buddy. This activity helped them become familiar with various locations in an elementary school, such as the nurse’s office, library, art room, music room, gym, and cafeteria.

In the spring, the district started preparing for the 2024-2025 school year by conducting its annual lottery to fill available preschool seats. Although the district currently has over 200 families on the waitlist, the highly-anticipated opening of the Voorhees Early Childhood Development Center (VECDC) will allow us to accept many more families on the waitlist into the program as of January 2025. The 24-classroom VECDC will be able to accommodate 19 Voorhees preschool classrooms and 5 Gibbsboro preschool classrooms.

Renovations are underway in the building, with a substantial completion date of December 27, 2024 and grand opening projected for January 2, 2025.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

2023-2024

ANNUAL REPORT

Julie Lyons

Director of Early Childhood / K-5 Literacy / ESL

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE
Julie Lyons
Director of Early Childhood / K-5 Literacy / ESL

Introduction

The Bilingual Education Act (N.J.S.A. 18A: 35-16) was enacted to ensure that students of limited English proficiency are provided instruction that allows them to continue to develop academic skills while acquiring English language skills. Chapter 212 as amended also reaffirmed the need to provide special instructional programs to children who do not know sufficient English to work successfully in an English-only classroom. Chapter 15 of the Bilingual Code was amended and readopted in order to help districts continually improve academic programs and whole-child supports to ensure post-secondary success for all multilingual learners (MLs).

State bilingual categorical aid is made available to districts to assist them in meeting the educational needs of multilingual learners. To qualify for these funds, districts are required to submit a program plan describing how these services will be provided.

The ESL Program in Voorhees Township Public Schools

Currently, the ESL Program in the Voorhees Township School District is organized to meet the needs of its Multilingual Learners (MLs) on several proficiency levels: newcomer, beginning, intermediate, and advanced. Students are grouped both by proficiency level and/or grade level. When grouped by proficiency level, we use cross-grading. When grouped by grade level, we use multiple proficiency levels together, thus providing opportunities for the more advanced students to apply their newly acquired skills in a controlled, risk-free setting.

Districts that run an NJDOE-approved preschool program must identify their MLs in preschool. The ESL teacher who supports preschool provides ongoing support in the following ways: meeting with teachers to answer questions about their students' language needs, providing professional development to preschool staff, modeling effective strategies for MLs in the classroom, collaborating with the Preschool Instructional Coach (PIC), and providing books in students' home languages that enhance the preschool classroom libraries.

At the elementary school level, we use a pull-out program that provides ESL students a minimum of 30 minutes of ESL instruction each day. In the middle school, a pull-out program is also used. Students at the middle school are afforded ESL instruction a minimum of 45 minutes per day.

2023 – 2024 Program Data

Budget Resources:

Local Funding and Federal Funding

Staff: Supervisor
5 Full-Time ESL Teachers

ESL Students

School	Total Students in Program this School Year
ET Hamilton	38
Kresson	20
Osage	43
Signal Hill	6
Middle	12
Preschool	25
Total	144

Language Breakdown

Arabic	Bengali	Chinese	French
Gujarati	Hindi	Japanese	Kannada
Korean	Malayalam	Marathi	Mon-Khmer
Nepali	Panjabi; Punjabi	Russian	Spanish; Castilian
Tajik	Tamil	Telugu	Thai
Turkish	Ukrainian	Urdu	Vietnamese

Program Entrance and Exit

ESL teachers assess students when they enter our school district using the World-Class Instructional Design Assessment (WIDA) Screener test. This screener assesses students across four domains: Listening, Reading, Speaking, and Writing. Test scores are used to assist educators in identifying students as MLs and determine if a student is a candidate for ESL services.

Each year, ESL students participate in a statewide assessment, WIDA ACCESS. This computer-based test monitors student progress in the ESL program as well as determine which students may be ready to exit the program.

Student's progress is assessed and monitored throughout the year and a final review occurs annually. Students who receive a score of 4.5 or higher on the WIDA ACCESS test are then evaluated using an English language observation form that considers classroom performance, progress on standardized tests, grade-level tests, and teacher recommendations and observations. The observation form is completed jointly by the ESL teacher, the regular classroom teacher and/or the reading specialist. Based on a total score 15 or less, a recommendation is made to have the student either remain or exit the ESL program. Following this review, students are either exited or remain in the ESL program. Once exited, the student is monitored for a period of two (2) school years to ensure success in the regular

program and to provide periodic assistance, if required. A State report also includes the number of students who have moved out of the district or who have exited the ESL program.

Curriculum and Professional Development

The National Geographic *Reach* and *Inside* programs were used for Multilingual Learners. In addition, an online component was purchased to provide online access to materials. All objectives cover language, literacy, and content instruction (Social Studies, Science, Mathematics, and Fine Arts) and are correlated to the WIDA standards, as well as selected New Jersey Student Learning Standards for English Language Arts.

District staff continue to enhance instruction through an assortment of training opportunities, including annual professional development for all teachers and administrators that work with MLs. The ESL teachers also work closely with classroom teachers to provide strategies to encourage our ESL students.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

2023-2024

ANNUAL REPORT

Julie Lyons

Director of Early Childhood / K-5 Literacy / ESL

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS
Julie Lyons
Director of Early Childhood / K-5 Literacy / ESL

This year the district commenced its first full year implementing a new English Language Arts (ELA) program, McGraw Hill's *Wonders*, in Grades K-2. *Wonders* is an evidence-based K-5 ELA program that empowers students to take an active role in learning and exploration. Best-in-class differentiation resources support strong outcomes for all learners, and meaningful, authentic literature invites students to explore their world and learn more about themselves and each other in the process.

Teachers in Grades K-2 also utilized *Foundations*, a research-based, systematic approach to teaching children foundational skills such as phonemic awareness, phonics, high frequency word study, reading fluency, vocabulary, comprehension strategies, spelling, and handwriting. Both programs align with the newest version of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for English Language Arts (NJSLA-ELA).

Throughout the 2023-2024 school year, teachers attended multiple professional development sessions to make a smooth transition while implementing the new ELA program. Professional development coaches and reading specialists supported teachers as well.

While teachers in Grades 3-5 continued to use the *Journeys* ELA program during the 2023-2024 school year, both McGraw-Hill trainers and the district's professional development coaches provided training and collaboration sessions. This afforded teachers opportunities to review the program components, including the online instructional resources while becoming familiar with the program overall.

Reading Specialists continue to serve as key members of our ELA curriculum development. They meet frequently throughout the school year to discuss needs and concerns of our teachers and provide assistance and solutions. In addition to supporting staff in the classroom, they pull out and work with students who require additional literacy support and remediation.

We continued to use the iReady program to supplement and assess our students' progress in ELA. The program was used in grades K-8 for both a diagnostic purpose and for instructional lessons. Teachers used iReady to enrich instruction for those students prepared to move ahead, to remediate for specific skills when needed, and also supplement current learning standards. Overall, the teachers continue to see progress on diagnostic assessments.

The district continues to use Atlas, an online tool for curriculum planning and lesson pacing, grounded in standards-based instruction. Staff continue to update the curriculum, and during the summer of 2024, ELA teachers will update the curriculum to reflect the new ELA standards and align with the *Wonders* program in Grades 3-5.

While teachers started the year submitting lesson plans through Atlas, the district made the decision to pivot to a platform that better meets our lesson planning needs: OnCourse. This

lesson planning tool ensures greater consistency across the district and appropriate pacing. It also allows teachers to share plans and resources easily with one another.

At the middle school level, standards-based instruction guides the Literacy Lessons for regular education classrooms in grades 6–8, while the Hampton-Brown *Inside* series continues to address the needs of sixth grade special education and BSIP students. Teachers use CommonLit, NewsELA, and other resources to differentiate their instruction based on student needs. Teachers also meet throughout the year in grade-level PLCs to focus on instruction and create common assessments based on student needs.

The English Language Arts Curriculum Guide encourages development of each child’s ability to communicate is provided through the compilation of this inclusive curriculum. It incorporates many aspects of scholarly vocabulary development to enhance and improve reading comprehension of complex and other text, writing strategies, speaking and listening skills, research skills, and technology applicable instruction to provide increased proficiency in the area of English Language Arts. Considering that our district believes that English Language Arts goes beyond functional literacy in all content areas, we intend to foster lifelong literacy and learning for our students. It is therefore essential to prepare our students with college and career readiness skills through literacy and other instruction, as referenced in our English Language Arts Curriculum Guide.

All students in Voorhees Township Public Schools continue to have 1:1 devices that support reading and writing initiatives. Supplemental programs such as iReady, RAZ Kids, and more can be accessed through students’ devices.

Support staff in each school is available to support teachers in the area of ELA. Library/Media Specialists assist teachers in gathering information and material as needed. They also manage databases that are used by our teachers and students, and our technology specialists support the necessary programs to enhance our language arts curriculum.

E.T. HAMILTON SCHOOL
Northgate Drive

2023-2024

Mary Tadley
Principal

**E.T. HAMILTON SCHOOL
MARY TADLEY, PRINCIPAL
2023-2024**

ENROLLMENT

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Number of Classes</u>
K	81	4
1	90	4
2	95	4
3	86	4
4	82	4
5	75	4

SPECIAL NEEDS

<u>Programs</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>
B.S.I.P. Literacy & Math	76
Speech	49
Resource Room	27
Inclusion	25
Self-Contained	0

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

<u>Programs</u>	<u>Grades Included</u>
Anti-Bullying Assemblies	K-5
Author Assembly (virtual)	K-5
Back-to-School Night	K-5
Character Education Assemblies	K-5
Cyberbullying and Internet Safety Assembly	K-5
Fire Prevention Week/Voorhees Fire Co. Visit	K&1
First Grade Open House	1
Field Day	K-5
Goodwin Raab Center Guest Reader Program	K-5
Halloween Parties	K-5
Josh the Otter Book Assembly (Rotary Club)	K
Kindergarten Orientation and Moving Up Ceremony	K
5 th Grade Graduation Ceremony	5
Enrichment Program	K-5
Morning Program for remediation	2-5
Professional Learning Communities (PLC's)	K-5
Respect Week	K-5
School Pictures	K-5
School Spirit Weeks	K-5
Valentine's Day Parties	K-5
Violence and Vandalism-/Halloween Safety	1-5
Music Concerts	K-5
Student Council	3-5

PARENT FACULTY ASSOCIATION

5th Grade Graduation Day
Author Visit- Allison Gutknecht
Author Visit- Lauren Tashis
Alicia Rose Foundation Bandana Sale
Book Fair
“The Great and Powerful Dave” Anti-Bullying Assembly
Book Fair Grand-Friends Event
5th Grade Pretzels and Pajama Day Fundraiser
Jungle Themed Carnival
Candy Gram Fundraiser
Chalk-the-Walk Event
Food Book Drive
Halloween Class Parties
Halloween Candy Drive/McDonald’s House
Helping Hands Collections /Packaging Night
Hawk Market
Hawk Pride Days
Hawk Winter Break Bingo
HPFA Breakfast (for Teachers)
HPFA Membership Drive
Holiday Shop
The Giving Tree
Magazine Sale
Teacher Night at McDonald’s
Monster Mini- Gof Fundraiser/ Family Night Out
Mr. Softee
Movie Night
Nostra Dine Out Event
Picture Day
Roller Skating Party at Hot Wheelz Cherry Hill
School T-Shirts
Staff Luncheon
Sal Vito Dine -Out
Spiritwear
Teacher Appreciation Week
Yearbook

NUMBER OF STAFF

Certificated Full-Time (includes 1 administrator)	43
Certificated Part-Time or Shared:	8
Non-Certificated Full-Time	9
Non-Certificated Part-Time or Shared	7

E. T. Hamilton Annual Required Training			
Topic	Date	Participants	Method
Staff Training			
Substance Abuse Staff Training	9/11/23 Throughout the year	All staff	Reviewed policy-principal: Power Point.
HIB bullying/student harassment staff training	9/05/23, 9/11/23	All staff	Discussion with the Principal/counselor/GCN Training
HIB Law Update	9/05/22		
Staff Harassment Training	9/11/23 Throughout the year	Staff/faculty meeting	Policy mentioned by the principal at faculty meeting.
Sexual Harassment	9/11/23	All Staff	
Student Sexual Harassment	9/11/23		
Suicide Awareness, Prevention Training	9/11/23 Throughout the year	Staff/faculty meeting	District Staff GCN training for new staff. Review of district policies/procedures by the principal.
School Safety/Emergency Plan Training	9/05/23 9/11/23 9/5/23, 1/29/24, 2/22/24, 5/16/24 9/6/23, 11/16/23, 3/14/24	Staff/faculty Meetings School Crisis Committee School Safety (HIB) Committee Meetings	Copies to all and reviewed at meetings Introduced the Crisis Prevention Team and procedures-principal. Members discussed emergency drills. Reviewed the security plan with the principal. Committee members discussed HIB Survey and the climate of the school.

Missing/Abused/Neglected Children Training	9/11/23 10/16/23	Staff/faculty meeting	Principal reviewed (DCP&P) requirements and district policy.
Equal Educational Opportunity/Achievement Gap training	9/11/23	Certified Teachers	Presented through the faculty meeting agenda and power point presentation. Grade level meetings focused on student achievement
Blood Borne Pathogens	9/11/23	All Staff/New Staff	Nurse presented information. GCN training for new staff.
Violence and Vandalism Week Activities for staff	Faculty Meeting 10/16/23	Staff/students	Faculty meeting and events were completed with collaboration by grade level partners on activities during the week. Counselor presented lessons in classrooms.
Violence and Vandalism	Throughout the year	Staff	Various activities in classrooms.
Allergy Management	09/11/23 10/16/23	Staff/faculty meeting	Review of policy GCN training done by everyone. Nurse reviews procedures.
Asthma	09/11/23, 10/16/23 Throughout the year	Staff/faculty meeting	Review policies with the school nurse. GCN Training for the new staff.

Eye Protection	09/11/23 Throughout the year	Staff/faculty meeting	GCN training individually for new staff. School nurse presented information.
Intervention and Referral	Throughout the year	RTI meetings	Counselor and CST members.
School Nurse delegates for Epi-Pen	Throughout the Year (4 times; presented refresher trainings at the end of each marking period.)	Delegates	Nurse-trained individually all delegates
Diabetes Awareness	12/11/23 Throughout the year	All Staff Nurse and staff	Nurse reviewed policies Principal and School Nurse reviewed procedures with staff.
Gang Awareness Policy	12/11/23	Nurse and staff	Principal reviewed procedures
Social Media Policy	09/11/23	Faculty Meeting	Power Point presentation by the principal.

Student Training			
Bullying/Harassment Training	<p>Throughout the year</p> <p>Anti-Bullying “HAWK” assemblies</p> <p>Character Ed Assemblies</p> <p>Specifically designed lessons, as needed, throughout the year</p>	Students K-5	Information/lessons from counselor and teachers; Health classes; Assembly with all grades
Substance Abuse Training	Throughout the year	Students’ 1 st -5 th	Health classes
Violence and Vandalism Week Activities for students	Respect week of 10/16/23	Students and staff	Bulletin boards Announcement Class Posters Counselor presented in classrooms. Theme week for the entire school. Teacher implemented lessons and activities

KRESSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

7 School Lane

**2023 - 2024
Annual Report**

**Stacey Morris
Principal**

**Kresson School
2023 - 2024 Annual Report
Stacey Morris
Principal**

Enrollment

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Number Of Students</u>	<u>Number Of Classes</u>
Pre-K 3yr old	43	7
Pre-K 4yr old	45	7
K	71	6
1	71	6
2	91	7
3	64	4
4	73	3
5	65	3

Special Needs

<u>Programs</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>
B.S.I.P. (Literacy)	47
B.S.I.P. (Math)	25
K – 5 Speech	100
Pre-K Speech	39
Resource Room	26
Self-Contained	59
Enrichment Program (grades 3 – 5)	26
Enrichment Sparks (grades K – 2)	30

School Programs

<u>Programs</u>	<u>Grades Included</u>
Back-To-School Night	Pre-K – 5 th
Instrumental Music Program	4 th – 5 th
Fun and Fitness Day	K – 5 th
Preschool Orientation	Pre-K
Preschool End of Unit Celebrations	Pre-K
Preschool Promotion Day	Pre-K
Kindergarten Orientation	Kindergarten
Kindergarten Move Up Day	Kindergarten
New Parent Orientation	Pre-K – 5 th
Reading Incentive Program	K – 5 th
Fifth Grade "Promotion Day"	5 th
STEM Days	K – 5 th

Josh the Otter (Water Safety)

K

School Programs Continued

Spelling Bee

3rd – 5th

Math 24 Challenge

4th – 5th

Week of Respect

Pre-K – 5th

Literacy and Math Before School Program

2nd – 5th

American Education Week

Pre-K- 5th

Kresson Character Counts Education

Pre-K – 5th

Donuts with Dad

Pre-K - K

Muffins with Mom

Pre-K - K

School Assemblies

Welcome Back Assembly

Halloween Safety - Voorhees Police

Bike Safety – PE and Voorhees Police

Reading Incentive Assembly

Kresson Character Counts Assemblies

Author Assemblies

The Shore Thing (5th grade) Assembly

Parent/Faculty Association Activities

General Meetings (evening)

Yearbook

Welcome Back Picnic

Candy Bar Bingo

Welcome Back Staff Breakfast

Staff Appreciation Week / Luncheon

Fifth Grade Promotion Activities

Reading Incentive Program

Student Original Artwork Project

School Assemblies

KPFA and 5th Grade Committee Fundraisers

Halloween Boo Bags

Holiday Shop

Scholastic Book Fair

Dining Out Events

Spirit Wear

Victorious Bandana Sale

Fall and Spring Flower Sales

Diane's Water Ice

Pretzel Sales

Super Scooper Event
Trunk or Treat

KPFA Community Service Activities

The Giving Tree
Feed-A-Family
Alicia Rose Victorious Foundation
First Responders Recognition

Other Activities

Beginning/Advanced Band
Orchestra
After School Clubs
Safety Patrol
Student Council

Number of Staff

Certificated	58
Non-Certificated	42

Kresson School Annual Required Training			
Topic	Date	Participants	Method
Staff Training			
Substance Abuse Staff Training	9/11/23	All Staff	Faculty Meeting PowerPoint
Alcohol, Tobacco, & Other Drugs	Throughout the year		Review & Discussion
Bullying/Student Harassment Staff Training (HIB)	9/5/23, 9/11/23	All Staff Volunteers	Staff Handbook PowerPoint
Pupil Discipline/Code of Conduct	Throughout the year		District Website Faculty Meeting
Staff Harassment Training	9/11/23	All Staff	Faculty Meeting Power Point
Student Sexual Harassment	9/11/23	All Staff	Presentation GCN
Suicide Awareness, Prevention Training (and connection to HIB)	9/11/23	All Staff	Faculty Meeting Review of District Policies/Procedures
	Throughout the year		District Website

			PowerPoint GCN for New Staff
School Safety/Emergency Plan Training	9/5/23, 9/11/23 Throughout the year 9/6/23, 2/22/24, 5/16/24 9/6/23, 11/16/23, 3/14/24	All Staff / Faculty Meetings Crisis Team Meetings/PRT School Safety Committee	Copies to all and reviewed at meetings. Introduced the Crisis Team and procedures. Discussed emergency drills. Reviewed security plan and discussed HIB survey and school climate/school reopening plan.
Missing/Abused/Neglected Children Training	9/11/23, 10/16/23	All Staff	Faculty Meeting reviewed requirements and district policy.
Equal Educational Opportunity/Achievement Gap training	9/11/23	All Staff	Faculty Meeting PowerPoint
Blood Borne Pathogens	9/11/23	All Staff	Faculty Meeting PowerPoint
Asthma Training	9/11/23, 10/16/23	New Staff	Nurse Handouts GCN
Violence and Vandalism Week Activities for staff	10/16/23 Ongoing throughout the school year	Certified Teachers	Faculty Meeting Handouts Classroom lessons Assembly programs
Eye Protection	9/11/23	Designated staff and teachers as needed	Nurse individual instruction
Intervention and Referral	Throughout the year	RTI meetings	Principal reviewed policies / Reading Specialist gave individual instructions

School Nurse delegates for Epi-Pen	Throughout the year (4 times)	Delegates	Nurse Training
Expectations for Pupil Conduct	11/13/23 Throughout the year	All Staff	Faculty Meeting
Pupil Discipline Code of Conduct	11/13/23	All Staff	Faculty Meeting Power Point
Diabetes Awareness	12/11/23 Throughout the year	Nurse	Reviewed medical procedures
Gang Awareness Policy	12/11/23	All Staff	Faculty Meeting Power Point
Student Training			
Bullying/Harassment Training	Throughout the year	Students PreK - 5	Policies to all students/parents Health Lessons Guidance lessons Week of Respect Character Education Virtual Assemblies and Activities Move This World SEL Curriculum
Substance Abuse Training	Throughout the school year	Grades 1 -5	Health Curriculum
Violence and Vandalism Week Activities for students	Week of 10/16/23 – 10/20/23	All Students	Grade level presentations and activities by staff Police Visit and Virtual Assembly on Halloween Safety/Crime Prevention

OSAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Somerdale Road

2023-2024
Annual Report

Robert Cranmer
Principal

**Osage School
Voorhees Township School District
Robert Cranmer, Principal**

Enrollment

	Number of Students	Number of Classes
K	85	4
1	75	4
2	93	5
3	83	4
4	100	5
5	98	5
Self-Contained	5	1
Total Students	534	

Special Needs Programs	Number of Students
BSIP Literacy & Math	98
Speech	27
Resource Room	38
Inclusion	39
Mid/Moderate Learning or Language Disabilities	8
ESL	
Special Education	
Autism	11
Specific Learning Disability	37
Other Health Impaired	8
Communication Impaired	15
Multiply Disabled	1
Emotionally Disturbed	0
Vision Impaired	0
Cognitively Impaired	0
Auditory Impaired	0

School Programs

Programs	Grades Included
Kindergarten Orientation	Kindergarten
Back-to-School Night	All Grades
American Education Week	All Grades
Fifth Grade Parent/Student Promotion Ceremony	5
Kindergarten Promotion	Kindergarten
Homework Helpers	1-5
Extended Day BSIP Program	3-5
New Parent Orientation	All Grades
Advanced Math Program	4-5
After School Clubs	3-5
Student Council	4-5

School Assemblies

Talent Show	All Grades
Instrumental Concert	All Grades
Goodwin Raab Center/Holocaust Museum	All Grades
Rythmix Assembly	All Grades
Voorhees Rotary Club – Water Safety	Kindergarten
Veteran’s Day Assembly	All Grades
Fire Prevention	All Grades
Flag Day	All Grades
Character Education Assemblies	All Grades
Miss Teen New Jersey: Mental Health Awareness: “Pain with a Purpose”	Grades 3-5
Student Council	Grades 3-5
Holiday Ensemble	All Grades
Author Visit	All Grades

Parent/Faculty Organization Activities

Five General Meetings
Welcome Back to School Social
Staff Holiday Treats
Staff Appreciation Week
Fifth Grade Promotion Ceremony

OPF Fundraisers

T-Shirt Sale
Gertrude Hawk
Square 1 Art
School Book Fair
Holiday Shop
Pretzel Sales
Box Tops for Education
Shoprite
Amazon Smiles
Raiseright.com
McDonald's Booster
Spring Pictures
Yearbook
Car Wash
Trunk or Treat
Pajama Day
Skating Party
Flyers Game
Candy Bar Bingo
Charleston Wrap

OPF Community Service Activities

Holiday Donations
Food Drive

Other Activities

Beginning/Advanced Band
Student Council
Field Day
Fifth Grade Fun Day

Number of Staff

Certificated - 53
Certificated Part-Time or Shared - 5
Non-Certified - 12

Osage School Annual Required Training			
Topic	Date	Participants	Method
Staff Training			
Substance Abuse Staff Training Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs	September 11, 2023	All Staff	Faculty Meeting – Reviewed Policy Power Point Presentation
Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Staff Training & Pupil Discipline/Code of Conduct	September 5, 2023, September 11, 2023, Throughout the year	All Staff	Faculty Meeting, Staff Handbook, District Website, PowerPoint Presentation
Staff Harassment Training	September 11, 2023	All Staff	Faculty Meeting – Reviewed Policy Power Point Presentation, GCN Presentation
Sexual Harassment Student Sexual Harrassment	September 11, 2023 September 11, 2023	All Staff	Faculty Meeting – Reviewed Policy Power Point Presentation
Suicide Awareness and Prevention	September 11, 2023 Throughout the year	All Staff	Faculty Meeting – Reviewed Policy Power Point Presentation GCN for New Staff
School Safety/Emergency Plan Training	September 5, 2023 September 11, 2023 Throughout the year 9/5/23, 1/29/24, 2/22/24, 5/16/24	All Staff Crisis Team Meetings and School Safety Committee	Plan provided to staff in September as part of the Faculty Handbook and then reviewed throughout the year at faculty and grade level meetings. Drills were practiced on a regular basis. Discussed emergency drills. Reviewed security plan and discussed HIB survey and school climate

Missing/Abused/Neglected Children Training	September 11, 2023 October 16, 2023	All Staff	Faculty Meeting – Reviewed Policy Staff Handbook
Equal Educational Opportunity/Achievement Gap training	September 11, 2023	Certified Teachers	Faculty Meeting – Reviewed Policy Power Point Presentation, Grade Level Meetings focus on Student Achievement
Blood Borne Pathogens	September 11, 2023	All Staff New Staff –	Faculty Meeting – Power Point Presentation New Staff - GCN
Violence and Vandalism Week Activities for staff	Faculty Meeting October 16, 2023 Ongoing throughout the year	Certified Teachers	Faculty Meeting
Asthma Training	September 11, 2023 October 16, 2023	All Staff	Presentation and Printed Materials provided by Victoria Crews New Staff - GCN
Epi-Pen Training	Throughout Year	Designated Staff and teachers as needed	Nurse, Victoria Crews, provided individual instruction
Eye Protection	Throughout Year September 11, 2023	Designated Staff and teachers as needed All Staff	Nurse instruction Faculty Meeting
Intervention and Referral	Throughout Year	RTI Meetings	Principal/Assistant Principal/ Counselor provide instruction
Expectations for Pupil Conduct	11/13/23	All Staff	Faculty Meeting

Pupil Discipline Code of Conduct	11/13/23	All Staff	Faculty Meeting Power Point
Diabetes Awareness	12/11/23 Throughout Year	Nurse	Reviewed medical procedures
Gang Awareness Policy	12/11/23	All Staff	Faculty Meeting Power Point
Student Training			
Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying Training	Through-out school year Guidance Lessons	All Students	Counselor conducted lessons and provided materials for students
	Week of Respect Activities Health Lessons	Grades 1-5	Character education assemblies and activities
Substance Abuse Training	Throughout Year	Grades 1-5	Health Curriculum
Violence and Vandalism Week Activities for students	Week of October 16, 2023 (10/16/23-10/21/23)	All Students	Teachers implemented lessons and activities

Signal Hill School

Signal Hill Drive

**2023 - 2024
Annual Report**

**Lauren M. Salls
Principal**

**Signal Hill School
2023 - 2024 Annual Report
Lauren M. Salls
Principal**

Enrollment

Grade	Number of Students	Number of Classes
Self-Contained	11	2
Kindergarten	55	3
1	84	4
2	69	4
3	75	4
4	73	4
5	74	4
 Total	 441	

Programs	Number of Students
B.S.I.P. (Kindergarten)	8
B.S.I.P. (Reading/Language only)	47
B.S.I.P. (Math only)	48
B.S.I.P (Reading & Math)	11
Speech (K-5)	50
Speech (Autism)	11
Resource Room	41
In Class Support	37
English as a Second Language	10
Enrichment Program (3-5)	26
Enrichment Program (K-2)	15

School Programs

Programs	Grades Included
Husky PRIDE Character Education Program	K-5
Back-to-School Night	K-5
Kindergarten Orientation	K
Kindergarten Move-Up Day	K
New Student Orientation	K-5
Fire Prevention Week Visit	K-5
Week of Respect	K-5
President/First Lady Wax Museum	4
Art Show	K-5
Music Concert	3, 4-5
Instrumental Music Program	4-5
Fun and Fitness Day	K-5
Author Visit	K-5
Math Day	K-5
Fifth Grade Promotion	5
Around the World International Studies	K-5
Rotary Club "Josh the Otter" Water Safety	K
Math 24 Challenge	3-5
Climate Change Sparks	4
Buddy Program	5

Co-Curricular Activities

Literacy and Math Extended Day Enrichment	1-5
Student Council	3-5
Chess Club	3-5
Public Speaking Club	3-5
Newspaper Club	3-5
Husky Welcome Committee	3-5
Beginner and Advanced Bands	4-5
String Orchestra	4-5
Guidance - Coping	K-5
Guidance - Worry Warriors	K-5
Guidance - Smiles	K-5

School Assemblies

Husky PRIDE Assemblies held throughout the year
Fire Safety – Voorhees Twp. Fire Department
Respect/Anti-Bully Assembly
Digital Citizenship Assembly
Hour of Code Assembly
BookSmiles Assembly
Math Day Assembly
Around the World Assembly

Signal Hill Parent/Faculty Association Activities

General Meetings
Dining Out Fundraisers
School Assemblies
Popsicles with the Principal Event
Welcome Back Staff Luncheon
Back to School Supply Kit Fundraiser
Book Fair
Holiday Shop
Staff Appreciation Week
Yearbook Sale
Fifth Grade Promotion and Game Day Activities
Spring Festival
Adopt-a-Family Food Drive (Community Service)
The Giving Tree (Community Service)

Special Service Programs/Projects

State of New Jersey - Department of Children and Families - DCPD - Clothing Donations
BookSmiles Book Drive
Share the Love Toy Drive
Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) Clothing Drive
Alicia Rose Victorious Foundation Bandana Sale

Number of Staff

Certificated:

Full Time at Signal Hill	47
Shared with other schools	6

Non-Certificated:

Support Staff (office, maintenance, cafeteria)	9
Instructional Associates	12

Signal Hill School Recognition/Awards

- 1) *New Jersey School of Character Award through Character.org and The New Jersey Alliance for Social, Emotional and Character Development (NJASECD) presented our school with an award. Signal Hill School was recognized for an exemplary level of achievement for its implementation of the Eleven Principles of Effective Character Education, helping to form good character in our students. The New Jersey State School of Character Award is from 2019 – 2023.*

- 2) *Book Song Challenge - Signal Hill School students were selected as Grand Prize Winners of the 2024 Book Song Challenge. As a result, Signal Hill School received \$3,000 for the school library, which will be used to purchase new books..*

Signal Hill School Annual Required Training			
Topic	Date	Participants	Method
Staff Training			
School Safety/Emergency Plan Training	9/5/23 9/11/23 10/16/23 11/13/23 12/11/23 1/8/24 2/12/24 3/11/24 4/15/24 5/13/24 monthly drills	All Staff	Plans distributed to all staff and substitutes in September 2023 in individual mailboxes. Plans reviewed and discussed with all staff at Faculty Meetings; ongoing monthly drills.
Pupil Discipline/Code of Conduct	9/11/23 5/3/24	All Staff	Staff Handbook; Discussion at Faculty Meetings; Policy Review - 5600
Violence and Vandalism Week Activities for staff	10/16/23 – 10/20/23	All Staff	Presentation at Faculty Meeting; online resources, guidance and assemblies
Blood Borne Pathogens	9/11/23 – 12/8/23	All Staff	Online training – GCN Faculty Meeting Overview
Asthma, Diabetes Training	9/11/23 – 12/8/23 1/8/24	All Staff	Faculty Meeting Presentation presentation and online training by GCN
Bullying/Harassment Training	9/5/23 – 12/8/23	All Staff	Staff Handbook; Faculty Meeting Presentation and online training by GCN; Policy Review - 5512; District website
Substance Abuse Staff Training	9/11/23 – 12/8/23	All Staff	Online training by GCN Policy Review - 5530

Missing/Abused/Neglected Children Training	9/11/23 – 12/8/23	All Staff All Volunteers	Faculty Meeting Presentation and online training by GCN; Policy Review - 8462
Staff Affirmative /Achievement Gap/Action/Harassment Training	9/11/23 – 12/8/23	All Staff	Online training by GCN; Policy Review - 2260
Eye Protection Training	9/11/23	All Staff	Faculty Meeting Presentation; Policy Review - 7432
Sexual Harassment Students	9/11/23	All Staff	PowerPoint Presentation and Policy Review - 5741
Response to Intervention Training	Throughout school year	All Staff	RTI Meetings; Presentation at Faculty Meeting. Review of Policy and Staff Handbook Guidelines
Suicide Prevention Review	9/11/23	All Staff	Faculty Meeting Presentation; Policy Review -5350
Gang Awareness Policy	2/12/24	All Staff	Faculty Meeting Presentation

Student Training			
Violence and Vandalism Week Activities for students	10/16/23 – 10/20/24	All Students K-5	Classroom lessons as outlined in NJDOE Guidelines
Bullying/Harassment Training	10/2/23 – 10/6/23	All Students K-5	Classroom lessons/HIB Assembly/Husky Pride Assembly
Substance Abuse Training	ongoing	Students Grades 1-5	Class instruction by Health Teachers

VOORHEES MIDDLE SCHOOL

Holly Oak Drive

**2023-2024
Annual Report**

**Kristine Calabria, Principal
Vicki Biederman, 6th grade, Assistant Principal
Alecia Inge, 7th grade, Assistant Principal
Russel Winsett, 8th grade, Assistant Principal**

Voorhees Middle School

Holly Oak Drive

Kristine Calabria, Principal
Vicki Biederman, 6th grade, Assistant Principal
Alecia Inge, 7th grade, Assistant Principal
Russel Winsett, 8th grade, Assistant Principal

2023-2024 Enrollment

Grade	Number of Students	Number of Classes
5	2	1
6	327	15
7	334	15
8	306	14

Special Needs

Programs	Number of Students
B.S.I.P	121
Speech	40
Resource Center	32
Self-Contained Special Ed.	11
English as Second Language	44

School Programs

	Grades Included
6 th Grade Orientation	6
6 th Grade Environmental Camp	6
Back-to-School Nights	6-8
Parent/Teacher Conferences	6-8
Week of Respect	6-8
Red Ribbon Week	6-8
Autism Awareness and Acceptance Week	6-8
Spirit Week	6-8
Book Fair Community Night	6-8
Holiday Food and Toy Drive	6-8
MLK Month of Service Project	6-8
Drama Production	6-8
Character Awards	6-8
VOICES	6-8

SEL Day	6-8
8 th Grade Graduation	8

School Clubs

Student Yearbook	6-8
Drama Club	6-8
Running Club	6-8
Student Council	6-8
Interact	6-8
Science Olympiad	6-8
School Newspaper	6-8
Reflections Magazine	6-8
ESPORT	6-8
EmpowerMENT	6-8
Environmental Science	6-8
Free To Be Club	6-8
Viking Shop	6-8
Adopt-a-Grandparent	6-8
Intramurals	6
Odyssey of the Mind	6-8
S.A.F.E	6-8
S.P.O.R.T.	6-8
School Bands	6-8
Stage Crew	6-8
School Chorus	6-8
Chess Club	6-8
String Orchestra	6-8
Technology Club	6-8
Trail Blazers	6-8
Homework Club	6-8

Sports

Baseball	6-8
Basketball	6-8
Field Hockey	6-8
Soccer	6-8
Softball	6-8
Track	6-8
Wrestling	6-8

Parent/Faculty Organization Activities

- Assist with school pictures
- BJ's Membership Program
- Magazine Drive
- Community Dine-Outs
- Parent volunteers in the school
- Teacher Appreciation Week
- Skate Nights
- Staff Luncheons
- Spirit Wear Sale
- 8th Grade Dance
- 8th Grade BBQ

Number of Staff

- Certificated
- Non-Certificated

Voorhees Middle School Annual Required Training			
Topic	Date	Participants	Method
Staff Training			
Smart Pass	September 2023	All Staff	Faculty Meeting
Bullying/Student Harassment Staff Training- HIB Laws	September 2023	All Staff	Faculty Meeting
GCN	September 2023	All Staff	Faculty Meeting
School Safety/Emergency Plan Training	Monthly Training throughout the 2023-2024 school year.	All Staff	Plan provided to staff in September as part of the Faculty Handbook and then reviewed 1 time per month during faculty meetings. Drills were practiced on a regular basis.

Medical Review-Bloodborne Pathogens/Hypoglycemia/Asthma /Seizures	September 2023	All Staff	Faculty Meeting/Marisa DelPallazzo & Stefany Emerson
Danielson Smart Card	September 2023	All Staff	Faculty Meeting
Missing/Abused/Neglected Child Training	October 2023	All Staff	Faculty Meeting
Diabetes Awareness Training	December 2023	All Staff	Presentation
Gang Awareness Training	December 2023	All Staff	Presentation
CST Training	January 2024	All Staff	Presentation
De-escalation Strategies	March 2024	All Staff	Presentation
SEL	March 2024	All Staff	Presentation-Melissa Illiano
PDP Professional Growth	April 2024	All Staff	Presentation www.effectiveeducators.com
Completing Annual Evaluations	April 2024	All Staff	Presentation
NJSLA Training	April & May 2024	All Staff	Presentation-Alecia Inge
ESL Training	May 2024	All Staff	Presentation- District ESL Staff

Student Training			
Bullying/Harassment Training	Through-out school year Health lessons, Assemblies	All Students	Counselors conducted lessons and provided materials for students Shari Kauffman provided training on Digital Citizenship
Substance Abuse Training	Health Education	Grades 6-8	1 Cycle of 6 weeks Health Lessons for all students
SEL Day	Melissa Illiano-SEL Coordinator	Grades 6-8	Melissa Illiano created and conducted lessons on Social and Emotional Learning.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND RECREATION

**C/O Voorhees Middle School
1000 Holly Oak Drive**

**2023 - 2024
Annual Report**

Michael Redfearn, Coordinator

COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND RECREATION

Michael Redfearn, Coordinator

JULY 01, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2024

Community Education-Recreation (CER) has existed for the past 40 years. It is one of the original programs that still exist in New Jersey. It has grown to encompass many services and programs for the school and the community. Voorhees CER was one of the very first Childcare Programs in the State of New Jersey and served as a model for many area schools. Financially self-sustaining CER requires no assistance from local, state, or federal governmental sources.

Michael Redfearn, Coordinator of CER, has helped maintain and expand the program's stature in the community. CER prides itself on being an essential bridge between the school district and the community. Operating daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., it provides services such as before- and After-School Child Care, youth programs, and rental/usage of our district facilities to residents and local sports/athletic organizations.

CER manages, staffs, and maintains a nine-hundred-seat performing arts center at Voorhees Middle School. On weekends, it manages and staffs all school buildings, providing our youth with indoor practice/game space and the community with meeting space. CER also works closely with all PFA groups, providing them with meeting space and fundraising opportunities that utilize our schools and the VMS Theater.

CER Tennis Program

4 terms – Summer of 2023, Fall 2023, Winter 2024 and Spring 2024 – Adult & Children
Participants 141

School Age Care Program – 2023-2024

Number of participants:

E. T. Hamilton	85
Osage	83
Kresson	72
Signal Hill	101

Summer Programs

Summer Day Camp – 181 Participants

Voorhees Theater Camp – 106 Participants.

Saturday Spectacular

221 -Participants

School/theater usage: 62 permits

PUBLIC INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

2023 - 2024 Annual Report

Susan Donnelly, Supervisor of Special Projects

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION
2023 - 2024
Susan Donnelly, Supervisor of Special Projects

Publications (Includes: gathering information, writing, editing, layout and distribution.)

- Kindergarten On-line brochure
- Emergency letters and flyers to all parents (such as security issues, delayed openings etc.)
- Annual Report: compiled and edited the annual report of the district's progress in 2023 - 2024 and presented it to the Board of Education at its August meeting.
- Mobile App: maintain and publish events and news.
- Social Media – Maintain District Facebook Page highlighting the District.

Writing and Editing

- Press Releases that either invited media to cover an event or reported on an event with photograph and story. (Included coordination, gathering information, trips to schools to photographs, writing, e-mail.)
- Writing copy for district-wide publications, except Annual Report
- Annual Report – Staff recognition, Affirmative Action report, Public Information Office report
- District web site – update content daily/weekly as needed: Announcements, News & Events, Calendar, Information, Frequently Asked Questions.
- Letters to Key Communicators and Parent/Faculty Associations

Media Relations

- Inviting media to cover school activities.
- Serving as District Spokesperson
- Directing Media to Topics for Feature Stories

Web Site Use and Maintenance

- Developed, planned, and coordinated all activities associated with website.
- Ongoing training of Technology Staff and district staff on Blackboard
- Work with department staff to create and update specific information.
- Update all timely data from Information Guide in summer (including calendar)
- Make changes to calendars as needed.
- Publish photos and news of district activities and events.
- Add Pertinent Information to Website as needed
- Post all school delayed openings and closing (remotely as needed 24 hours a day)
- Coordinate all district website development and implementation.
- Virtual Backpack for District and Community-wide notices

Calendar

- Gathered and organized all district/school events.
- Created and updated District/School website calendars, monthly calendar distributed to all students, posted to website.

School Communication System

- Kept consistent email and phone call communications regarding food service during remote learning.
- Updated teachers, staff and parents in response to remote learning updates.
- Manage and maintain the Emergency Communication System (Blackboard) that allows for immediate or future mass phone or e-mail messaging.
- Train building administrators and secretaries on Blackboard and Mass Communication
- Send a regular E-News from the district to all parents with up-to-date district/community information.
- Sends special weather or emergency notifications to staff and parents as needed on call 24 hours/7days week.

Special Projects (as needed)

- Open communication with Key Communicators, community leaders; plan, organize and attend meetings throughout the year between community leaders and the Administrative Staff.
- Organize and plan for staff recognitions including retirement signs and video of retirees.
- Assisting district staff members with public relations, media publications and special events
- Implementation of key fob system for security
- Maintain and manage Parent Notification System adopted for all schools and staff that allows for “instant” telephone communication in case of emergencies or for other school/district related needs.
- Central Registration during remote learning as buildings had limited access.
- Coordinate District Health Services
- Coordinate District Attendance/Residency procedures
- District Anti-Bullying Coordinator
- Appointed District School Safety Specialist as required by the State Department of Education

Retirees & 25 Year Service Award Recipients

2023 - 2024

Retirees

**Mrs. Gina Borucki
Mrs. Andrea Carroll
Ms. Marlene Cosenza
Mrs. Deborah Coyle
Mrs. Wendy Gaff
Ms. Ilene Ganzman
Mr. John Keys
Mrs. Patricia Luchtman
Mrs. Dianne Marsh
Miss Susan Meyer
Mr. Dennis Mignone
Mrs. Colleen Rossi
Mr. John Shea
Mr. Mark Sviben
Mrs. Linda Vilorio**

25 Year Service Award Recipients

**Eileen Adams
Lisa Bailey
Laura Hertz
Lauren Kerns
Stefanie Levin
Karyn Montgomery
Stacey Morris
Derek Myers
David Magpiong
Amy Roncska-Casmay
Joseph C. Petit de Mange**